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8 AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC, and  
GOLDEN STATE FC LLC  
9

10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, WESTERN DIVISION  
11

12 COLETTE CHEN, an individual,

13 Plaintiff,

14 vs.  
15

16 AMAZON.COM INC., a Delaware  
Corporation; AMAZON WEB  
SERVICES, INC., a Delaware  
17 Corporation; GOLDEN STATE FC  
LLC, a California Corporation;  
18 AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC, a  
Delaware Corporation; ANDY JASSY,  
19 an individual; and DOES 1-20,  
inclusive,  
20

21 Defendants.  
22

Case No.

**DEFENDANTS AMAZON.COM,  
INC., AMAZON WEB SERVICES,  
INC., AMAZON.COM SERVICES  
LLC, AND GOLDEN STATE FC  
LLC'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF  
CIVIL ACTION UNDER 28 U.S.C.  
§1441**

[LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT; CASE NO.  
23STCV26169]

Action Filed: October 25, 2023  
Trial Date: N/A

23 TO THE CLERK OF THE ABOVE-ENTITLED COURT AND PLAINTIFF  
COLETTE CHEN:  
24

25 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Defendants AMAZON.COM, INC., AMAZON  
WEB SERVICES, INC., AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC, and GOLDEN STATE  
26 FC LLC ("Defendants"), pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441, hereby remove the above-  
27 entitled action to this Court from the Superior Court of the State of California in and  
28

1 for the County of Los Angeles.

2 **I. FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND**

3 On October 25, 2023, Plaintiff COLETTE CHEN(“Plaintiff”) filed her first  
4 amended civil complaint in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of  
5 Los Angeles, entitled *Colette Chen v. Amazon.com Inc., et al.*, Case No.  
6 23STCV26169. A true and correct copy of the Complaint (hereinafter the  
7 “Complaint”) is attached at **Exhibit A** to the Declaration of Corina Gallardo  
8 (“Gallardo Decl.”) submitted concurrently herewith.

9 In her Complaint, Plaintiff alleges twelve causes of action against Defendants:  
10 (1) Breach of Contract; (2) Promissory Estoppel; (3) Fraud; (4) Negligent  
11 Misrepresentation; (5) Violation of the California Equal Pay Act; (6) Waiting Time  
12 Penalties; (7) Disability Discrimination in Violation of the Fair Employment and  
13 Housing Act (“FEHA”); (8) Gender Discrimination in Violation of the FEHA; (9)  
14 Failure to Prevent Discrimination in Violation of the FEHA; (10) Wrongful  
15 Discharge; (11) Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Wage Statements in Violation  
16 of Cal. Lab. Code § 226; and (12) Unfair Business Practices. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 2;  
17 **Exh. A**. Plaintiff seeks general damages, incidental damages, special damages,  
18 compensatory damages, punitive damages, attorneys’ fees, interest, and costs of suit.  
19 *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 2; **Exh. A** at p. 31 - 32.

20 On January 11, 2024, Defendant Amazon Web Services, Inc. was served with  
21 Plaintiff’s Complaint, and a true and correct copy of the Notice of Service of Process  
22 is attached as **Exhibit B**. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 3; **Exh. B**. On January 11, 2024,  
23 Defendant Golden State FC LLC was served with Plaintiff’s Complaint, and a true  
24 and correct copy of the Notice of Service of Process is attached as **Exhibit C**. *See*  
25 Gallardo Decl., ¶ 4; **Exh. C**. On January 11, 2024, Defendant Amazon.com Services  
26 LLC was served with Plaintiff’s Complaint, and a true and correct copy of the Notice  
27 of Service of Process is attached as **Exhibit D**. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 5; **Exh. D**. On  
28 January 12, 2024, Defendant Amazon.com, Inc. was served with Plaintiff’s

1 Complaint, and a true and correct copy of the Notice of Service of Process is attached  
2 as **Exhibit E**. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 6; **Exh. E**.

3 On February 9, 2024, Defendants answered Plaintiff's Complaint in State  
4 Court, and its Answer is attached as **Exhibit F** to the Declaration of Corina Gallardo  
5 submitted concurrently herewith. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 7; **Exh F**.

## 6 **II. THE NOTICE OF REMOVAL IS TIMELY**

7 This Notice of Removal has been timely filed within thirty (30) days after  
8 "service on that defendant of the initial pleading." *See* 28 U.S. § 1446(b)(2)(B).

## 9 **III. THIS COURT HAS DIVERSITY JURISDICTION**

10 This case is removable because this Court has original jurisdiction based on the  
11 parties' diversity of citizenship. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) ("The district courts shall  
12 have original jurisdiction of all civil actions where the matter in controversy exceeds  
13 the sum or value of \$75,000 . . . and is between . . . citizens of different States[.]").

14 First, Plaintiff and Defendants are citizens of different states. Plaintiff's  
15 Complaint alleges that she resides in the state of California and has lived in California  
16 at all relevant times. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 2; **Exh. A** at 2.

17 Defendant Amazon.com Services LLC, Golden State FC LLC, Amazon Web  
18 Services, Inc., and Amazon.com, Inc., are not citizens of California. For purposes of  
19 diversity jurisdiction, "an LLC is a citizen of every state of which its owners/members  
20 are citizens." *Johnson v. Columbia Properties Anchorage, LP*, 437 F.3d 894, 899  
21 (9th Cir. 2006).

22 At all times relevant to this action, Golden State FC LLC and Amazon.com  
23 Services LLC have been a citizen of Washington and Delaware (but not California).  
24 Golden State FC LLC, a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in  
25 Seattle, Washington, is now a defunct entity that and has been absorbed by its  
26 successor Amazon.com Services LLC. A true and correct copy of the Secretary of  
27 State Application to Register a Foreign Limited Liability Corporation for Golden  
28 State FC LLC is attached as **Exhibit G** to the Declaration of Corina Gallardo

submitted concurrently herewith. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 8; **Exh. G**. A true and correct copy of the Secretary of State Certificate of Cancellation for Golden State FC LLC is attached as **Exhibit H** to the Declaration of Corina Gallardo submitted concurrently herewith. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 9; **Exh. H**. The sole member of Amazon.com Services LLC is Amazon.com Sales, Inc., which is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Seattle, Washington. A true and correct copy of the Washington Secretary of State Statement of Information for Amazon.com Sales, Inc. is attached as **Exhibit I** to the Declaration of Corina Gallardo submitted concurrently herewith. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 10; **Exh. I**.

Amazon Web Services, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its corporate headquarters and principal place of business in Washington. A true and correct copy of the Washington Secretary of State Statement of Information for Amazon Web Services, Inc. is attached as **Exhibit J** to the Declaration of Corina Gallardo submitted concurrently herewith. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 11; **Exh. J**.

Moreover, the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000. Though Defendants deny that Plaintiff is entitled to any damages, Plaintiff seeks general damages, incidental damages, special damages, compensatory damages, punitive damages, attorneys' fees, interest, and costs of suit. *See* Gallardo Decl., ¶ 2; **Exh. A** at p. 31 - 32. California federal courts have routinely found that the amount-in-controversy requirement is satisfied in cases with similar claims. *See, e.g., Chambers v. Penske Truck Leasing Corp.*, 2011 WL 1459155, at \*3-4 (E.D. Cal. Apr. 15, 2011) (holding the amount in controversy requirement satisfied in disability discrimination case seeking compensatory damages, general damages, punitive damages, and attorneys' fees); *Ochoa v. Costco Wholesale Corp.*, 2023 WL 2861906, at \*3-4 (E.D. Cal. Apr. 10, 2023) (holding the amount in controversy requirement satisfied in disability discrimination and retaliation case seeking compensatory damages, general damages, punitive damages, and attorneys' fees); *Zamudio v. Aerotek, Inc.*, 2022 WL 458059, at \*5-6 (E.D. Cal. Feb. 15, 2022) (holding the amount in controversy requirement

1 satisfied in disability discrimination and retaliation case seeking compensatory  
 2 damages, general damages, punitive damages, and attorneys' fees). Thus, removal is  
 3 proper based on this Court's diversity jurisdiction.

4 **IV. VENUE IS PROPER IN THIS COURT**

5 Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a), "any civil action brought in a State court of  
 6 which the district courts of the United States have original jurisdiction, may be  
 7 removed by the defendant or the defendants, to the district court of the United States  
 8 for the district and division embracing the place where such action is pending." This  
 9 Court embraces the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los  
 10 Angeles, which is where Plaintiff's Complaint was originally filed. Accordingly, this  
 11 Court is the appropriate court to which to remove this action.

12 **V. NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

13 Defendants will promptly serve this Notice of Removal upon Plaintiff, and will  
 14 also file a copy of this Notice of Removal with the Clerk of the Superior Court of the  
 15 State of California, County of Los Angeles.

16  
 17 Dated: February 9, 2024

FARELLA BRAUN + MARTEL LLP

18  
 19 By: Corina Gallardo  
 20 Corina Gallardo

21 Attorneys for AMAZON.COM, INC.,  
 22 AMAZON WEB SERVICES, INC.,  
 23 AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC, and  
 24 GOLDEN STATE FC LLC  
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